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PATENT

2-6-03

S/N 09/858,267

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: TATSUMI et al. Examiner: SPITZER, R.  
Serial No.: 09/858,267 Group Art Unit: 1724  
Filed: 15 May 2001 Docket No.: 12109.44US01  
Title: ADSORBENT, ADSORPTION COLUMN AND APPARATUS FOR  
PRESSURE SWING ADSORPTION SEPARATION

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10**

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EV143561765US

Date of Deposit: 23 January 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By:

Name: John Winkers

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Under 37 C.F.R. §1.114, it is respectfully requested that this application be accorded the benefits of Continued Examination. Applicant respectfully requests that the amendment filed herewith be entered at this time.

Our check in the amount of \$750.00 is enclosed to cover the required fee for a large entity.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Dated: 23 January 2003

By

*Curtis B. Hamre*

Curtis B. Hamre  
Reg. No. 29,165

CBH:hjh

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Patent

09/858267

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2-6-03

Applicant: TATSUMI et al. Examiner: Robert H. Spitzer  
Serial No.: 09/858267 Group Art Unit: 1724  
Filed: May 15, 2001 Docket No.: 12109.0044US01  
Title: ADSORBENT, ADSORPTION COLUMN AND APPARATUS FOR  
PRESSURE SWING ADSORPTION SEPARATION

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

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By: 

Name: John Junkers

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following amendment before examination and consideration of this Request for Continued Examination (RCE) application filed herewith.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows. The claims are amended in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.121. No new matter has been added.

6. (Amended) An adsorption column apparatus for separating and collecting oxygen from an air by a pressure swing adsorption separation process comprising:

an air blower;

two adsorption columns each connected to the air blower, the adsorption columns each having an adsorbent packed therein;

a surge tank connected with the two adsorption columns that collects discharged oxygen gas from the adsorption columns to be discharged as product;